

August Members' Meetings

Dates & Times

Matinee 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 10
Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and
Thursday, August 10 and 11, 1983

Place

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker

Dr. B.J.D. Meeuse

Subject

"Sexual Encounters of the Floral Kind"

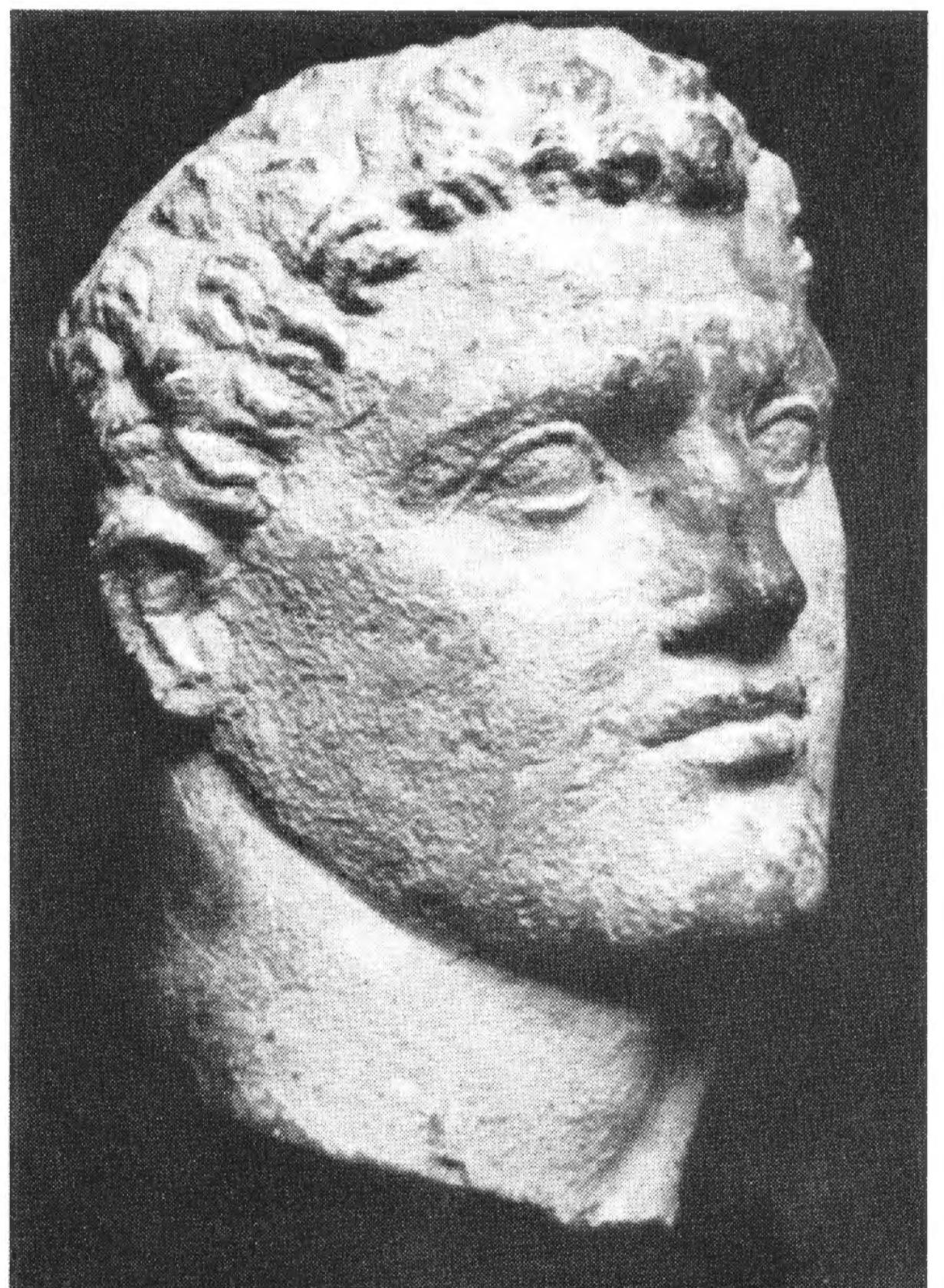
Unlike their counterparts in the animal kingdom, plants reproduce sexually but never meet their mates. Instead they have devised ingenious lures and deceptive traps so that insects, birds and other visitors will transport their pollen from one plant to another. In *Sexual Encounters of the Floral Kind*, the ingenuity of the photographers was matched only by that of their subjects. One of the sequences in this film, made by John Cooke and members of the Oxford Scientific Films Company, shows a Costa Rican orchid entrapping a bee and then, while letting it escape through a secret passage, attaching a package of pollen to its back.

Dr. B.J.D. Meeuse, Professor of Botany at the University of Washington in Seattle, served as scientific advisor during the seven year preparation of *Sexual Encounters of the Floral Kind*. Dr. Meeuse will introduce the film and answer questions following the screening. Don't miss this rare opportunity at the August members' meetings.

As usual, your membership card gives you free admission through the main entrance at Cowell Hall and through the Wattis Hall entrance. As summer hours are in effect until 7:30 p.m. please be prepared to show your membership card at both entrances for both the matinee and the evening meetings.

Special Exhibits

Special exhibits at the California Academy of Sciences are an important part of the museum's many activities. In addition to the classes and travel programs offered to members of the Academy, the special exhibits, either developed by our staff or brought in from other museums, give our visitors another enjoyable way to learn about the world around them.



ATHLETE Limestone, 1st century B.C.

This month there are seven excellent temporary exhibits found throughout the Academy, and with our summer hours (10 to 7:30 everyday!) it's a great time to enjoy your museum in the quiet evening hours.

Crossroads of the Ancient World: Israel's Archaeological Heritage features 200 artifacts and works of art from land and marine excavations around the ancient seaport of Haifa, Israel. In the center of the room a long display case serves as a timeline which shows what was going on in some of the world's great civilizations from the 18th century B.C. through the 4th century A.D. This exhibit is made possible by major funding from the Koret Foundation with additional support from many generous donors. Through September 5 in Lovell White Hall.

Pressed On Paper an exhibition of fish and plant rubbings continues in Hohfeld Gallery outside the auditorium. These contemporary prints revive the ancient art of the Japanese printing technique known as *gyotaku*. Humor, as well as beauty, describes this special exhibit being circulated to various museums by SITES (Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service). Through September 18.

At Mono Lake, the major photographic show on display in the McBean-Peterson Galleries, takes visitors to the stark and beautiful wilderness area east of Yosemite National Park. There are 100 photographs by 52 American photographers including Ansel Adams, Brett and Edward Weston, and Edward S. Curtis. The earliest photo was taken in 1868 and one spectacular view was "snapped" from outer space by NASA's Landsat camera in 1977. An informative introductory panel gives you useful background on the geological history of the lake that seems to be constantly in the news. Through October 15.

In the Fish Roundabout you will find **The Quilt** a queen-size project from the California Marine Mammal Center, our good neighbors at Fort Cronkhite who take care of abandoned or orphaned marine mammals. Artists who contributed to this stunning bedcover include Lowell Herrero, Richard Ellis, Pieter Folkens, Dugald Stermer and many, many more. Through Christmas.

The world's finest collection of **Fancy Colored Diamonds: The Rainbow Gems Collection** is in a jewel box setting in the Gem Room at the entrance to Mineral Hall. Through October.

A photographic tour of the American Southwest by photographer Jeff Nicholas is on display in Cowell Hall Gallery in **Windows & Walls** through October 2.

The winners of the **Imogen Photo Contest for Young People** are on display in Lower Cowell Hall Gallery through the summer.

The current sky show at the Morrison Planetarium turns the clock back 20 billion years to the very beginnings of the universe...literally, to the "Big Bang".

In **Light at the Edge of the Universe**, audiences will see astronomical wonders including comets, our own Milky Way, red giants, pulsars, quasars and black holes. Each sky show is introduced with a tour of the current night sky over the Bay Area.

Showtimes for **Light at the Edge of the Universe** are Monday and Tuesday at 2:00 and 3:30 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday at 11:00 a.m., 2:00, 3:30 and 7:30 p.m.; and Friday through Sunday at 11:00 a.m., 2:00 and 3:30 p.m.

Exploring the Skies of the Season can be seen everyday at its new time of 12:30 p.m.

Members may use their complimentary passes to both of these sky shows.

If you have enjoyed the great adventure movies of the last few years you will love the music composed by Oscar-winning John Williams. In this program entitled **Close Encounters with John Williams** you will relive the adventures of Luke Skywalker, Superman, ET, Jaws, Indiana Jones and more. **Close Encounters with John Williams** can be seen Wednesday through Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

The Beatles continues on Thursdays at 9:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 p.m., and on Sunday at 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. Regular admission is \$4.50 for adults (\$3.50 for all 5:00 p.m. shows), and \$2.50 for children 6-12 and for senior citizens. Advance tickets available through Ticketron.

Members' complimentary planetarium passes are **not** usable for Laserium.

ALL SHOWS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

Inside the Academy

Department of Birds and Mammals Needs a Refrigerator

Can you help us out with a donation of a refrigerator? The Birds and Mammals Department needs more cold storage for their specimens, so if you have any refrigerators languishing in basements or garages gathering dust, please call (415) 221-5100 Ext. 276 if you have any questions or information.

Special For Teachers

Teacher packets are available for loan from the Junior Academy in conjunction with the exhibit **Crossroads of the Ancient World: Israel's Archaeological Heritage**. Each packet contains a 22 page booklet on the history and importance of maritime archaeology, and 20 color slides with 6 pages of explanatory text. Call (415) 221-5100 Ext. 221 for further information.

A Gem of a Show!

The San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society will present its 29th Golden Gateway to Gems at the Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, on Saturday, August 6, 1983 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and on Sunday, August 7, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Members of the Academy will be admitted at a special price of \$1.50 on presentation of their membership cards. General admission is \$2.00.

Special Dance Performance by Ridudom

Sunday, August 7

2 - 3 p.m.

Wattis Hall of Man

In conjunction with the exhibit **Crossroads of the Ancient World: Israel's Archaeological Heritage**, the dance group **Ridudom** will perform traditional Israeli folk dancing, and instruct interested members of the audience in some of the dances.

Ridudom was the first dance group in California solely dedicated to Israeli folk dancing, and has provided instruction in recreational Israeli dance and has expressed the free spirit of Israeli dances in performances all over the state. Remember, there is no charge for members! Just show your membership card at the front door for free admission.

Dear Members:

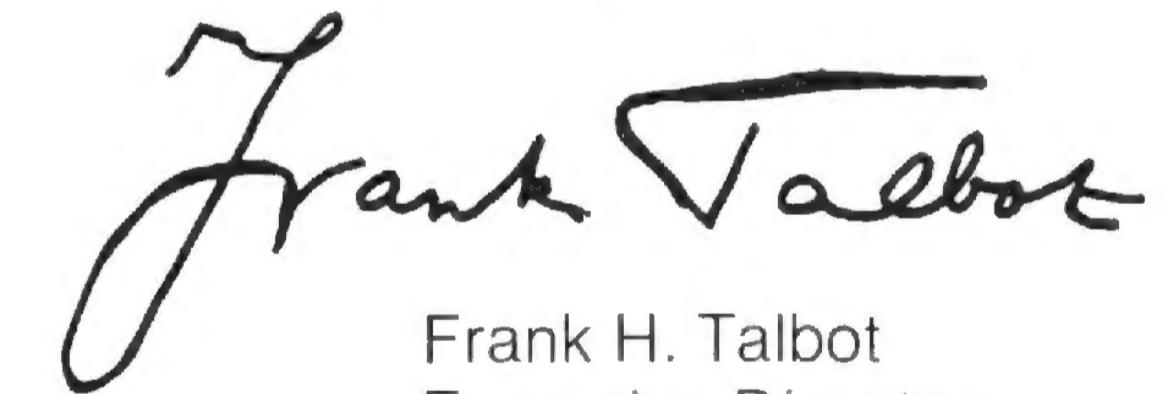
In May of this year a letter was sent to Academy members asking your help to establish The Fund for Research Scientists. To date, 571 gifts have been received bringing the total amount of contributions to over \$24,000. It appears that our goal of \$30,000 is within reach!

The work of the scientists at the Academy, primarily the science of systematics, is the first step that supports not only the field sciences — botany, and zoology, for example — but also provides information in such fields as agriculture, wildlife management, ecology, genetics and pharmacology.

Your generous support will make it possible for two or three of our fine scientists to complete their work in progress and give them time to find new sources of funding.

Please accept my sincere thanks on behalf of all the staff at the Academy for responding to our special request for your financial support.

With gratitude



Frank H. Talbot
Executive Director

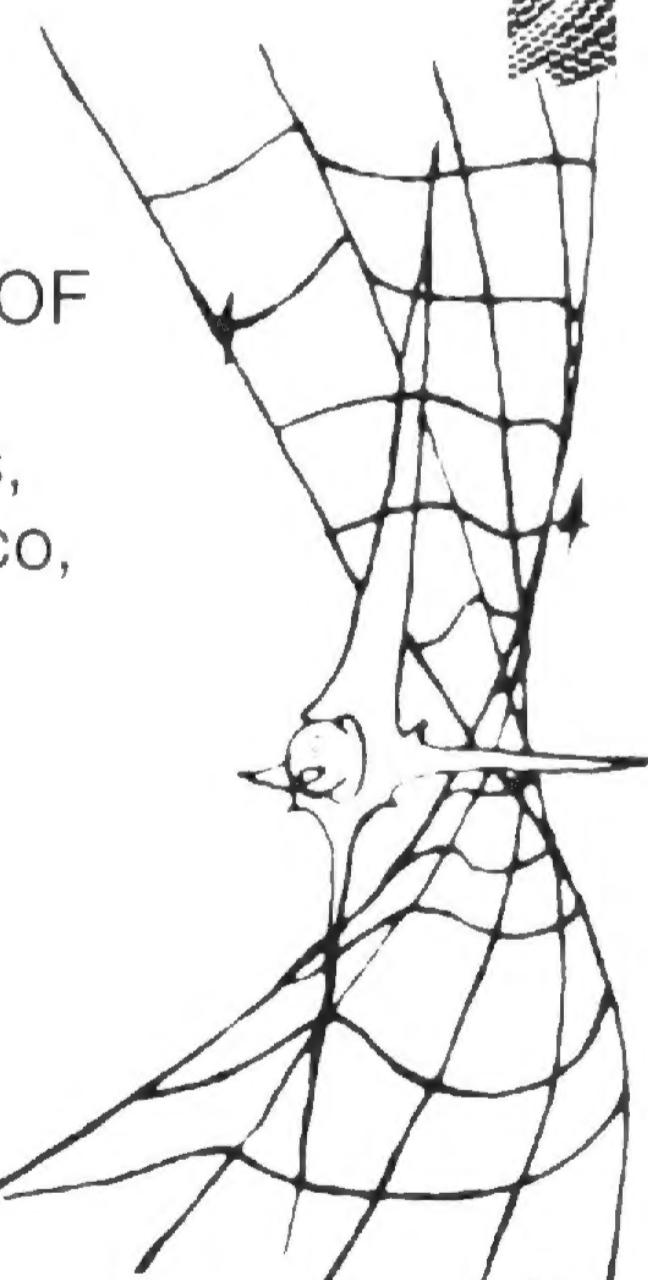
An Evening Under The Stars with Emerald Web

Back for a return engagement, musicians Bob Stohl and Kat Epple will present a concert of magical melodies and celestial visions in the planetarium on Tuesday, August 16, 1983 at 8:00 p.m.

Accomplished musicians, Bob and Kat meld the sounds of concert flutes, wood-winds, and modern electronic synthesizers to create innovative new dimensions in music. Selections from their recordings, including their latest release, "Nocturn," will be blended with structural improvisations and set to the visual accompaniment of planetarium special effects. Some of the instruments played include antique wooden flutes, recorders, Japanese Shakuhachi flutes, Lyric woodwind synthesizer, and digital synthesizer.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and may be obtained by mailing a check made payable to the CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES to Emerald Web, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118.

For further information call (415) 221-5100 ext. 269.



Education and Travel

A Safari to the National Parks of Brazil

September 4-25

From the mystique of the Amazonian jungles to the savannahs of Central Brazil, Academy members will probe the history of life forms on the South American continent. With the leadership of Dr. Robert T. Orr, and naturalist Walt Anderson we will discover and photograph the major large land mammals, the tropical flora, and the beautiful butterflies which inhabit Brazil today. Several Brazilian naturalists will assist in the field as members explore the national parks: Amazonia, Pantanal, Emas, Iguacu and Itatiaia. Cost is \$3690 for land arrangements and \$1378 for air fare at current rates. Participation limited to 17 persons. For information, call Betchart Expeditions at (408) 245-9517.

Hudson River Fall Foliage Cruise and Museums of New York

September 27 - October 8

Experience the brilliant foliage of autumn in New England on this special 12-day tour. The sights of New York City are included as we enjoy special visits to the American Museum of Natural History, the Brooklyn Botanical Garden, and the Metropolitan Museum. Members will board the *America* at Haddam, Connecticut to cruise up the Hudson River during this most picturesque and colorful time of the year. Cost is \$2047 for land and cruise arrangements, \$399 for air. For information, please call Siemer & Hand Travel at (415) 788-7186

Fish Collecting for Scuba Divers

In the Sea of Cortez

October 16 - 22

Filled. Wait-list only

Wonders and Wildlife of Nepal and India

October 28-November 20

Ancient Mysore and Goa

November 19-27

In Nepal, try game-viewing from elephant-back at famous Tiger Tops in Chitwan National park! Visit the exotic cities of India, from Delhi, Udaipur, Varanasi, Agra, and many more. An optional extension to Mysore and Goa is also offered. The tour will be led by Antony Hutt. Cost is \$2940 per person, and \$2000 for air fare. For information, please call Bryan International Travel at (415) 986-0967.

The Archaeology and History of Central Mexico and Oaxaca

January 18 - 30, 1984

Join George Stuart, staff member of National Geographic and author of "The Mysterious Maya", as he leads the Academy's specially planned exploration of Central Mexico and Oaxaca. From Mexico City, participants will visit the magnificent ruins of Teotihuacan, the ancient Toltec capital of Tula, Tepotzotlan, the graceful pyramid of Tenayuca, and the wonderful National Museum of Anthropology. Members will drive west from Mexico City to the extraordinary site of Malinalco, south to the colonial town of Taxco, and then on to Cuernavaca, viewing numerous examples of Maya, Teotihuacan, Toltec, Zapotec and Mixtec art and architecture. From Cuernavaca we travel back to Mexico City, visiting Puebla en route. A short flight from Mexico City brings members to Oaxaca and its famous site, Monte Alban. We will enjoy market day in Oaxaca and visit the town of Mitla before our exploration is concluded with a flight back to San Francisco. Cost is \$1465 per person for land and \$375 for air. For information, please call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

New Zealand and Fiji

February 18 - March 7

Destination: South Pacific! on this 19-day exploration of New Zealand and exotic Fiji. The tour of New Zealand will highlight spectacular scenery, wildlife, and Maori culture as members visit Auckland, the world famous "glow worm" caves of Waitomo, Rotorua, Waikaremoana Forest, Urewera National Park, Lake Taupo, and Waikare-iti for a walk that will include some wonderful bird watching. On South Island, members will enjoy a cruise through the dramatic scenery of Milford Sound and visit Stewart and Ulva Islands, a true birder's delight. Moving on to the lush islands of Fiji, members will board a small but comfortable boat for a 3-day "Blue Lagoon" cruise through the Yasawa Island chain. There will be time for visiting villages, snorkeling and exploring the lush tropical forests before returning home. Cost is \$2477 for land and \$1568 for air. For information, please call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

Northwest Passage Voyage
August 19 - September 27, 1984

A "first" in the history of adventure voyages will be made when the *M.S. Lindblad Explorer* carves out a path from Greenland across arctic waters through the Yukon and Alaska to reach Yokohama. The *Explorer* is a one-of-a-kind vessel, specially designed with a doubly reinforced hull, bow thruster, and powerful engines to travel safely and easily through the pack ice of the polar regions.

Passengers joining this 36-day voyage will embark in St. John's, Newfoundland, and head north via Greenland into Dundas Harbour and Resolute Bay. The ship will then head west to Prince Leopold Island, on through Bellot and James Ross Straits, and to Gjoa Haven. "Northwest Passage" participants will also explore Queen Maud Gulf, Perry River, Victoria Island, Banks Island, Kendall Island (Northwest Territory) and Herschel Island (Yukon). The *Explorer* will then reach Point Barrow on the northernmost tip of Alaska. From here the ship sets off through the Bering Strait to St. Lawrence Island. The remainder of this historical voyage will be filled with intriguing visits to Pinnacle, St. Matthew and Attu Islands before reaching Kushiro (Hokkaido), and Yokohama. Some of the world's finest naturalists and scholars will share their knowledge of the history, culture and wildlife of this area. Costs for the extraordinary voyage will range from \$15,000 to \$20,000 per person. This is a fund raising activity for the Academy; a portion of the listed cost will be tax-deductible. For information write or call the Academy Travel Office, (415) 221-5100.

No. 524

Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California 94118
(415) 221-5100 221-4214



Open every day of the year
from 10 to 5

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 7544
San Francisco, California



**California
Academy
of Sciences
Newsletter
August, 1983**